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NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

Monterey, California



HYDROGRAPHIC DATA FROM THE OPTOMA PROGRAM
OPTOMA18
31 October and 2 November 1985

by

Paul A. Wittmann Marie C. Colton John J. Rendine Christopher N.K. Mooers

December 1985

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Monterey, California 93943

RADM R.H. Shumaker Superintendent David A. Schrady Provost

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Christopher N. K. Mooers

The OPTOMA Program is a joint program of

Department of Oceanography Naval Postgraduate School Monterey, CA 93943. Center for Earth and Planetary Physics Harvard University Cambridge, MA 02138.

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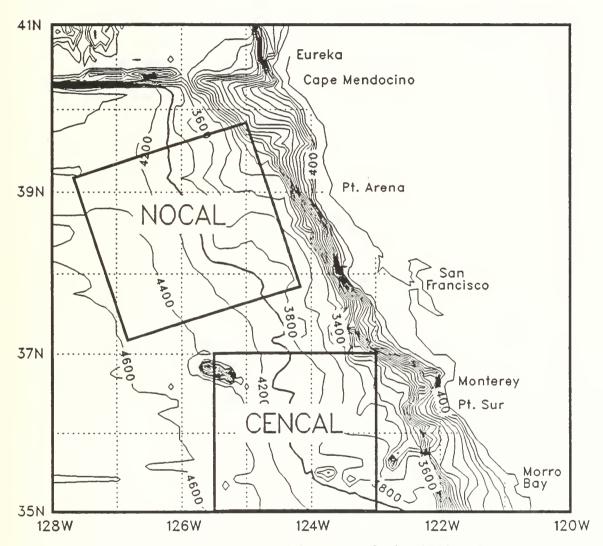


Figure 1: The NOCAL and CENCAL subdomains of the OPTOMA Program. Isobaths are shown in meters.

INTRODUCTION

The OPTOMA (Ocean Prediction Through Observation, Modeling and Analysis)
Program, a joint NPS/Harvard program sponsored by ONR, seeks to understand the mesoscale (fronts, eddies, and jets) variability and dynamics of the California Current System and to determine the scientific limits to practical mesoscale ocean forecasting. To help carry out the aims of this project, a series of cruises and P3 flights has been planned in two subdomains, NOCAL and CENCAL, shown in Figure 1.

OPTOMA 18 Flight I was conducted by Patron Forty-six, COMPATWING TEN on 31 October 1985 in the CENCAL domain and Flight II was conducted by Patron Ninety-one, COMRESPATWINGSPAC on 2 November 1985 in the NOCAL domain.

Bathythermographic data were acquired along the tracks shown in figures 2 and 8. The total areal coverage was roughly 530 km alongshore by 260 km cross-shore. Nominal station spacing was about 30 km along-track.

DATA ACQUISITION

Shallow (300m) and deep (700m) AXBT's were deployed from a Navy P3 aircraft during both flights. The aircraft maintained an altitude between 500 and 800 ft, depending on the low level visibility, and an airspeed of 200 knots. Close station spacing (30km) was achieved by alternately dropping Channel 14 and 16 AXBTs. The data were recorded onboard on audio tapes using a stereo tape recorder. Analog traces were also produced using two lofargram recorders which operated on UHF channels 14 and 16. The shallow AXBTs were digitized onboard the aircraft using a Sippican MK9 digitizer. The deep AXBTs were digitized after the flights, at NPS. A complete description of the data acquisition is given in Colton and Mooers (1985).

Station positions were obtained from the aircraft's Inertial Navigation System with hourly updates by TACAN (Tactical Air Navigation); accuracy of

position is within 2.0 km. The thermistor of the Sippican AXBT has an accuracy of $\pm 0.18C$ in temperature and $\pm 2\%$ or 5m (whichever is greater) in depth.

DATA PROCESSING

Temperatures were computed from the received frequencies according to Sippican (1983). Depths were computed empirically from the descent rate of the AXBT (Bane and Sessions, 1984). The temperature/depth profiles were then edited for erroneous data points, mainly due to RF noise. From the Flight I data set, approximately 86% of casts were retained; of these, 39 were from deep and 39 from shallow AXBT's. From the Flight II data set, approximately 87% of of casts were retained; of these, 40 were from deep and 39 from shallow AXBT's. The data have been transferred on digital tape to the National Oceanographic Data Center in Washington, D.C.

DATA PRESENTATION

The flight track, station locations and station numbers are shown in the first three figures of Sections I and II. These figures are followed by a listing of the stations, with their coordinates, and the date and time at which each station was occupied.

Vertical temperature profiles from the AXBT casts are shown in staggered fashion. The location of these profiles may be found by reference to the various maps of the flight track. Transect extremes are identified as nearly as possible. The first profile on each plot is shown with its temperature unchanged; an appropriate multiple of 5C has been added to each subsequent profile.

Isotherms along each transect are shown in the next pages. Transect extremes are identified. Based on instrument accuracy and the vertical temperature gradient, it is estimated that depths of isotherms in the main thermocline are uncertain to $\pm 20m$.

The data presentation concludes with plots of mean temperature profiles, with + and - the standard deviations.

SECTION I
OPTOMA 18 FLIGHT I
OCTOBER 31, 1985

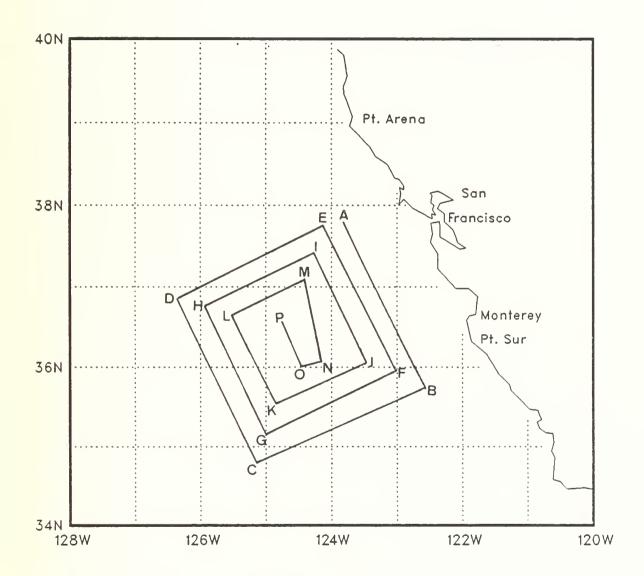


Figure 2. The flight track for OPTOMA18 Flight I.

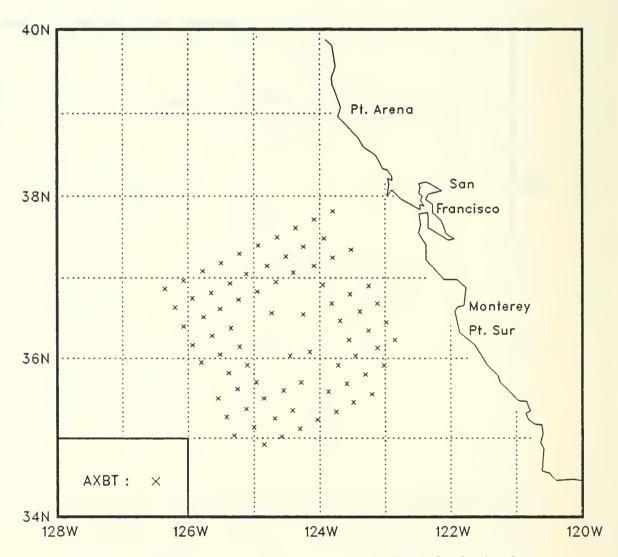


Figure 3. AXBT station locations for OPTOMA18 Flight I.

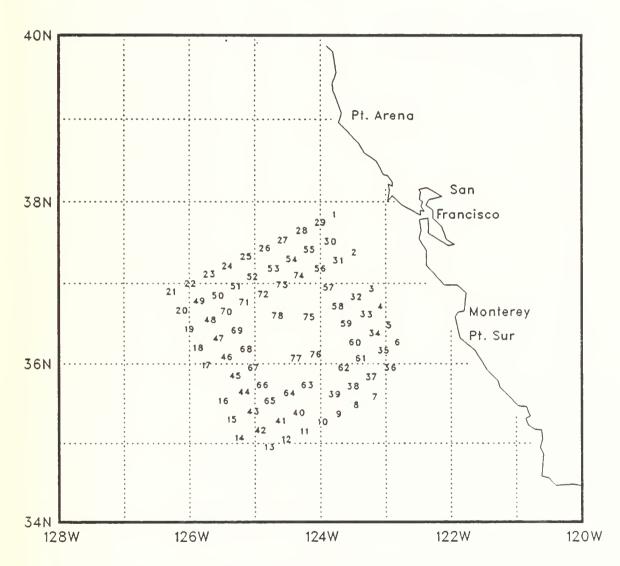
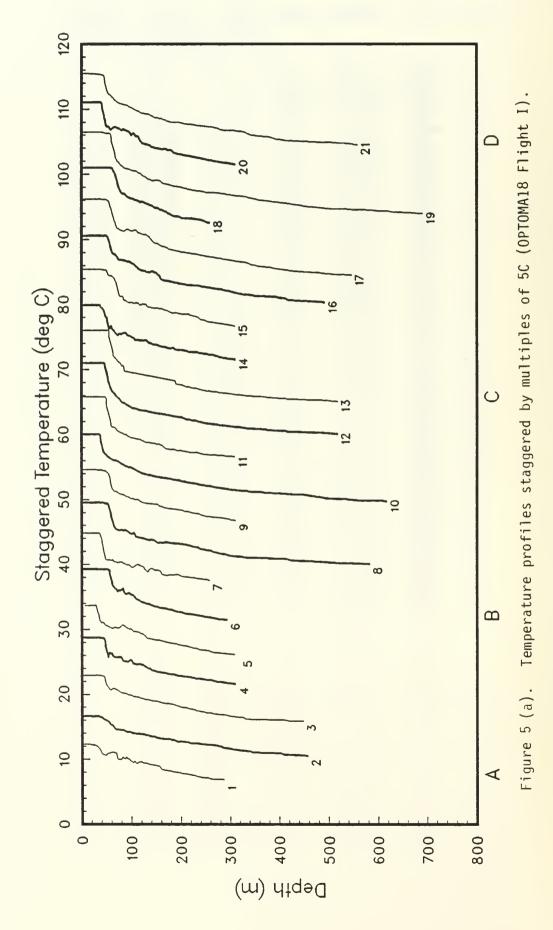


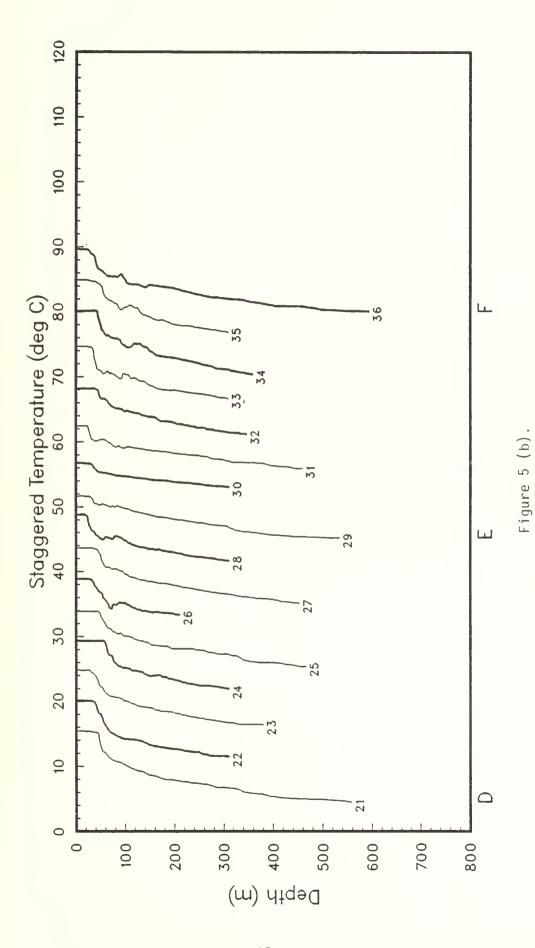
Figure 4. Station numbers for OPTOMA18 Flight I.

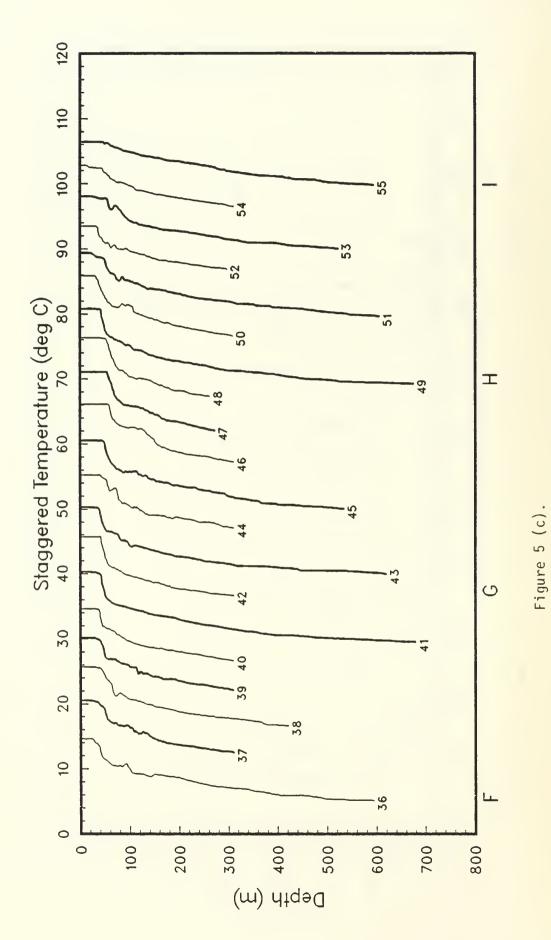
Table 1: Flight I Station Listing

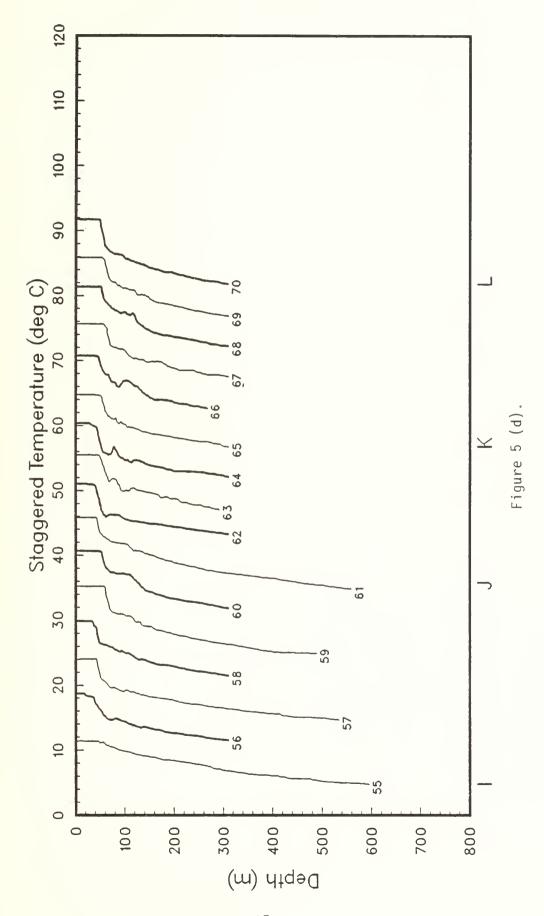
STN	TYPE	YR/DAY	GMT	LAT (NORTH) (DD.MM)		
1 2 3 4 5 6	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85304 85304 85304 85304 85304	1622 1631 1638 1639 1620 1649	37.21 36.54 36.41 36.27 36.14	123.31 123.15 123.07 122.59 122.51	12.3 11.6 12.9 13.7 13.7
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85304 85304 85304 85304 85304 85304	1704 1712 1717 1721 1725 1730	35.27 35.20 35.14 35.07 35.01 34.55	123.12 123.29 123.45 124.02 124.18 124.35 124.51	14.8 14.5 14.6 15.0 15.8 16.0
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85304 85304 85304 85304 85304 85304	1742 1743 1751 1800 1801 1809 1810	35.16 35.30 35.57 36.10 36.24	125.18 125.25 125.33 125.48 125.56 126.04 126.12	14.9 15.4 15.6 16.2 16.0 16.5
21 22 23 24 25 26 27	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85304 85304 85304 85304 85304 85304	1818 1821 1827 1836 1843 1844 1852	36.58 37.05 37.11 37.18 37.24	125.13 124.56	15.4 15.1 14.8 14.3 13.9 13.9
28 29 30 31 32 33	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85304 85304 85304 85304 85304 85304	1856 1900 1902 1909 1917 1918	37.37 37.43 37.29 37.15 36.48 36.35	124.22 124.05 123.56 123.48 123.32 123.23	13.8 11.6 11.8 12.5 13.2 14.7
34 35 36 37 38 39 40	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85304 85304 85304 85304 85304 85304	1925 1928 1932 1934 1942 1943	36.08 35.55 35.48 35.41 35.35	123.07 123.01 123.18 123.35 123.52	15.1 14.9 14.6 15.5 15.7 15.2 14.6
41 42 43 44 45	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85304 85304 85304 85304 85304	1953 2001 2010 2011 2019	35.15 35.08 35.22 35.37	124.41 125.00 125.07 125.15	15.3 15.7 15.3 15.2

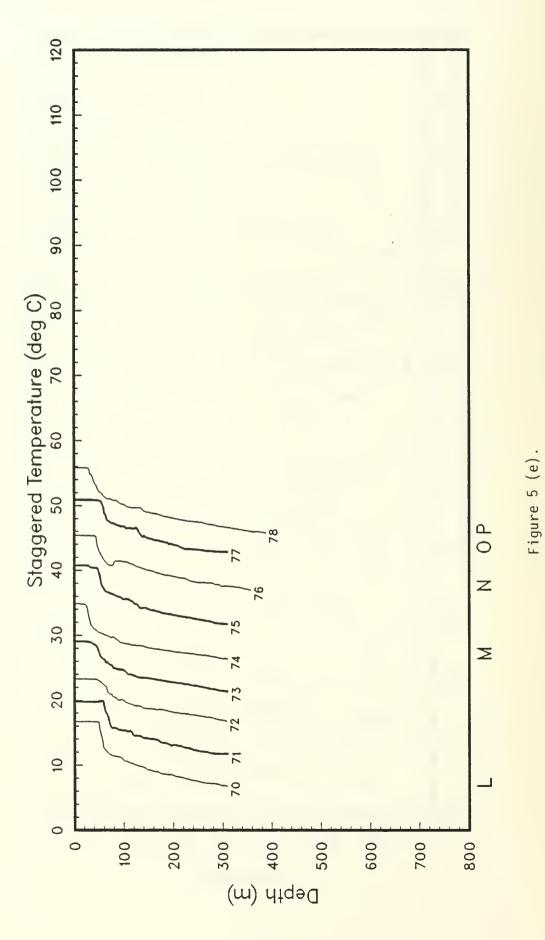
STN	TYPE	YR/DAY	GMT		LONG (WEST) (DDD.MM)	
46	AXBT	85304	2023	36.03	125.31	16.1
47	AXBT	85304	2028		125.38	
48	AXBT	85304	2029		125.46	
49	AXBT	85304	2037		125.56	
50	AXBT	85304	2038			
51	AXBT	85304	2046		125.22	
52	AXBT	85304	2047			
53	AXBT	85304	2055		124.48	
54	AXBT	85304	2057			
55	AXBT	85304	2104	37.23		
56	AXBT	85304	2105	37.09		
57	AXBT	85304	2113	36.55	123.57	
58	AXBT	85304	2117	36.41		
59	AXBT	85304	2121		123.41	
60	AXBT	85304	2125	36.14	123.33	
61	AXBT	85304	2129	36.02		
62	AXBT	85304	2130	35.55		
63	AXBT	85304	2141	35.42	124.17	
64	AXBT	85304	2147	35.36		
65	AXBT	85304	2149	35.30		
66	AXBT	85304 85304	2156		124.58	
67 68	AXBT AXBT	85304	2157 2205		125.06 125.13	
69	AXBT	85304	2203	36.09	125.13	
70	AXBT	85304	2215		125.21	
71	AXBT	85304	2213		125.31	
72	AXBT	85304	2225		124.57	
73	AXBT	85304	2228		124.37	
74	AXBT	85304	2233			
75	AXBT	85304	2235			
76	AXBT	85304	2250			
77	AXBT	85304	2252			
78	AXBT	85304	2310		124.44	
		0000				

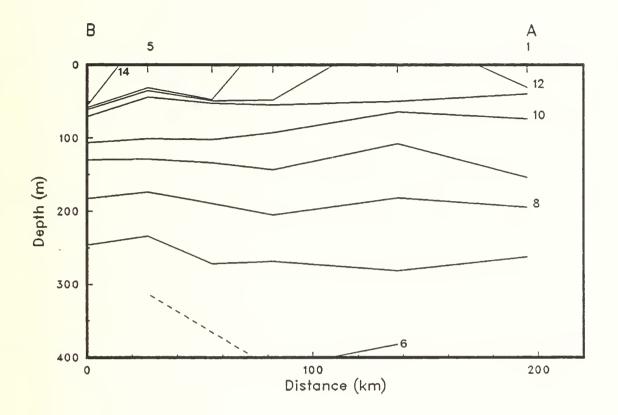












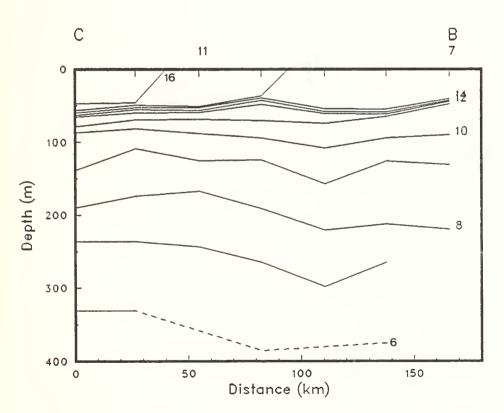
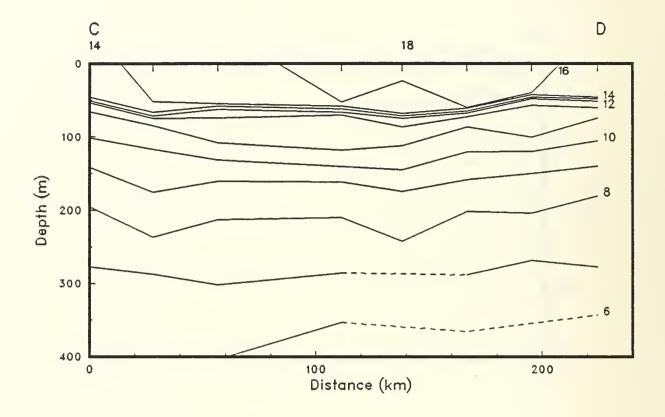
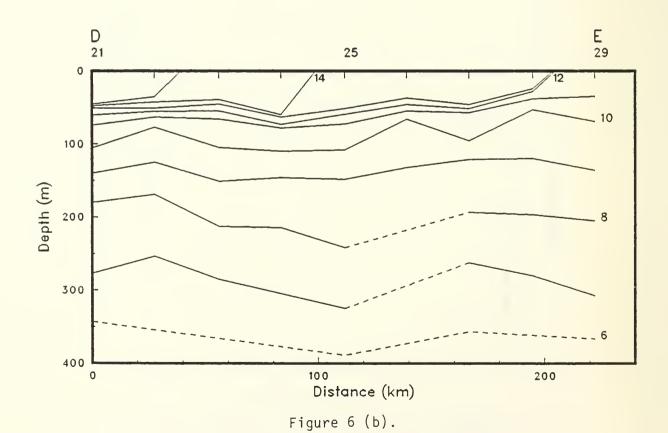
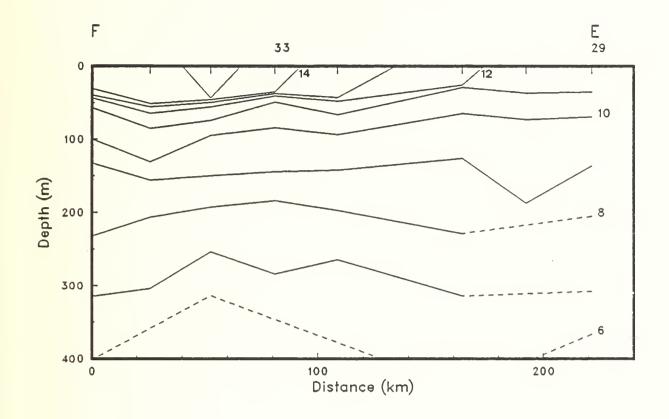
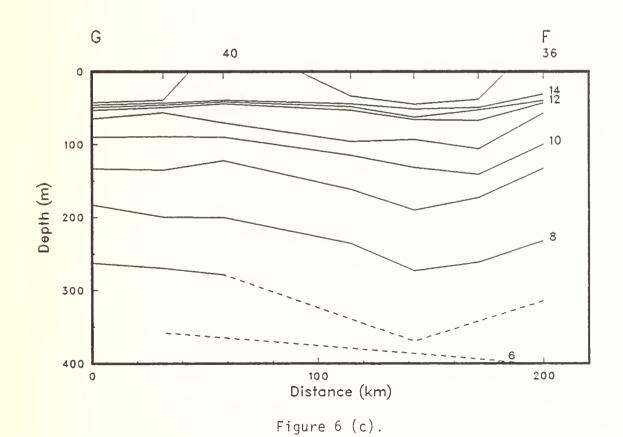


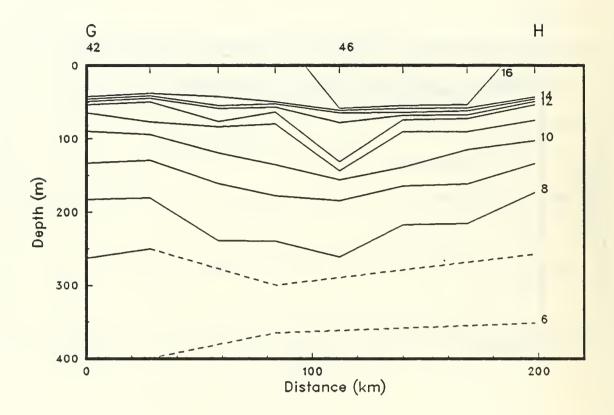
Figure 6 (a). Along-track isotherms. Tick marks along the upper horizontal axis show station positions. Some station numbers are given. Dashed lines are used if the cast was too shallow (OPTOMA18 Flight I).

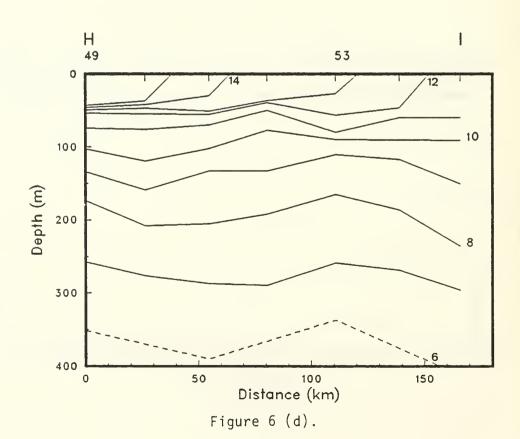


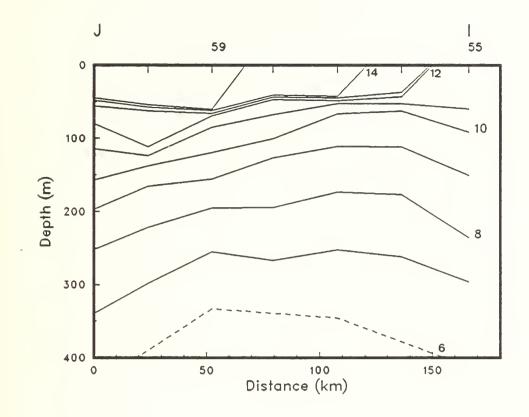


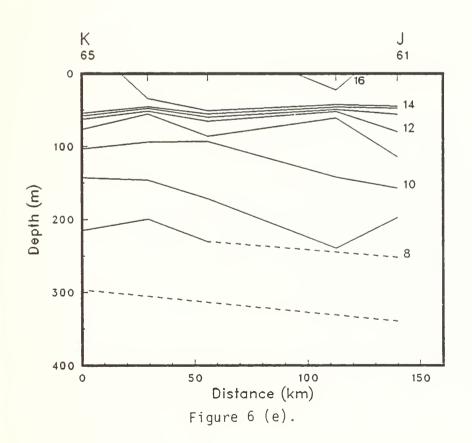


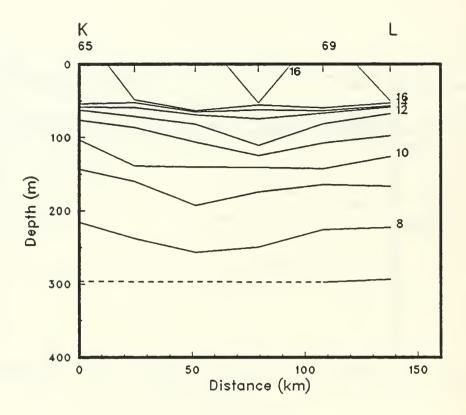


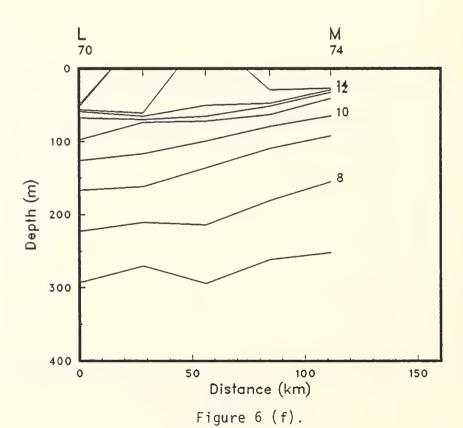












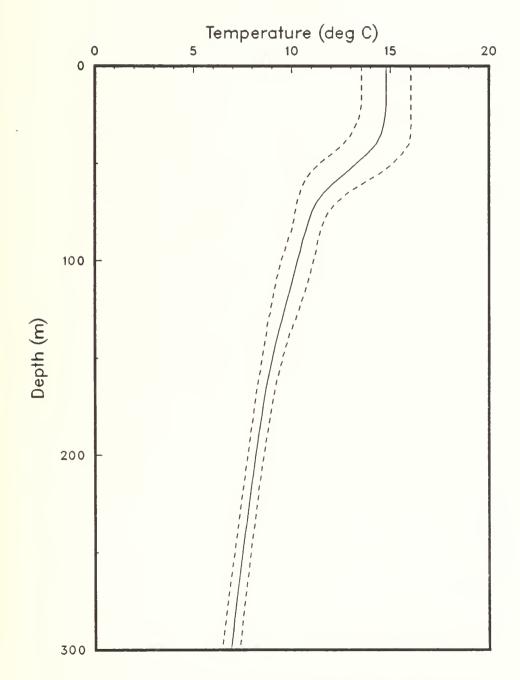


Figure 7. Mean temperature profile, with + and - the standard deviations, from OPTOMA18 Flight I.

SECTION 2
OPTOMA 18 FLIGHT II
NOVEMBER 2, 1985

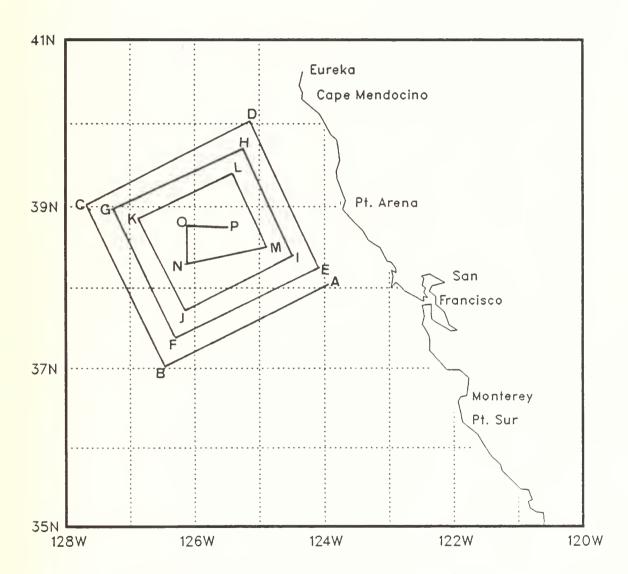


Figure 8. The flight track for OPTOMA18 Flight II.

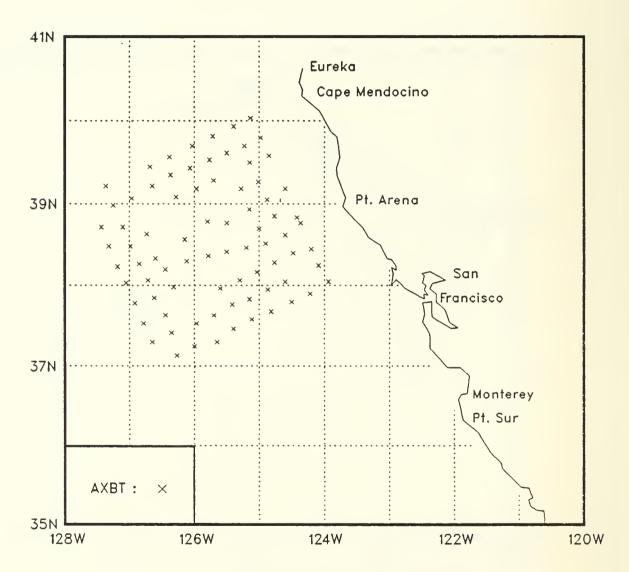


Figure 9. AXBT station locations for OPTOMA18 Flight II.

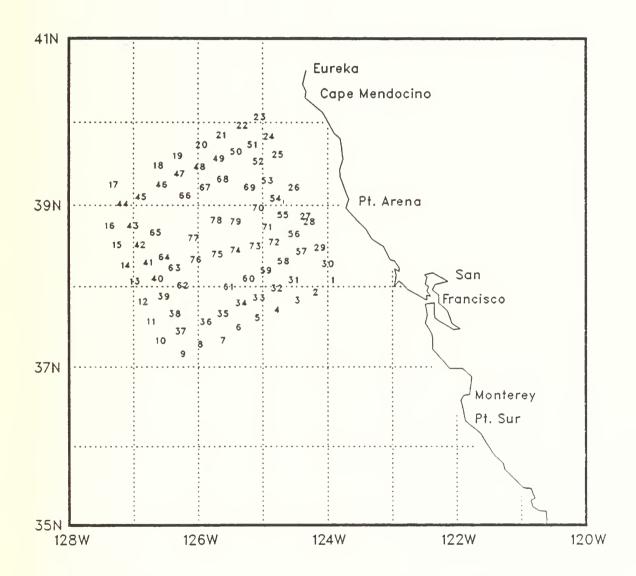


Figure 10. Station numbers for OPTOMA18 Flight II.

Table 2: Flight II Station Listing

STN	TYPE	YR/DAY		LAT (NORTH) (DD.MM)(
12345678901121314567890112222324567890313233456378904123443	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306	1814 1821 1821 1832 1833 1833 1843 1890 1845 1991 1991 1991 1991 1991 1991 1991 19	38.03 37.54 37.48 37.41 37.35 37.18 37.18 37.18 37.18 37.18 37.19 38.14 38.29 38.43 39.42 39.42 39.42 39.42 39.43 39.42 39.43 37.57 38.11 38.27 38.11 38.27 38.37 39.34 39.42 39.48 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.48 37.57 38.11 38.27 38.11 38.27 38.27 38.27 39.48 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39.49 39	123.56 124.13 124.30 124.49 125.07 125.24 125.39 126.00 126.16 126.39 126.47 126.55 127.22 126.41 127.22 126.41 127.22 126.41 126.23 125.24 125.24 125.08 124.59 124.51 124.36 124.59 124.51 124.36 124.52 125.42 125.42 125.43 126.51 126.51 126.51 126.59 127.06	12.8 13.1 13.0 14.3 13.8 14.5 14.7 15.3 15.9 15.8 16.2 15.9 15.2 14.8 14.7
44 45	AXBT AXBT	85306 85306	2151 2154	38.59 39.04	127.15 126.58	15.1 15.9

STN	TYPE	YR/DAY	GMT		LONG (WEST) (DDD.MM)	
46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306	2201 2205 2210 2211 2219 2223 2227 2229 2235 2237 2243 2245 2256	39.13 39.21 39.26 39.32 39.37 39.42 39.30 39.16 39.03 38.51 38.37 38.24 38.17	126.39 126.22 126.04 125.46 125.30 125.14 125.09 125.01 124.53 124.46 124.36 124.29 124.46	14.8 13.2 12.6 13.5 13.3 11.7 12.9 13.2 13.2 13.7 12.6 13.4 14.2 14.9
60 61 62 63 64 65 66	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306 85306	2301 2303 2319 2324 2329 2334 2336 2349	37.58 37.59 38.12 38.20 38.38 39.05	125.36 126.19 126.27 126.36 126.44 126.17	14.7 15.1 15.3 14.4 14.7 13.9
68 69 70 71 72 73 74	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85306 85307 85307 85307 85307 85307 85307	2356 5 6 14 22 24	39.17 39.11 38.56 38.42 38.31 38.28	125.42 125.17 125.09 125.00 124.54 125.12	13.9 13.3 13.5 14.2 14.6 14.0
75 76 77 78 79	AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT AXBT	85307 85307 85307 85307 85307	31 32 41 50	38.22 38.18 38.34 38.47	125.47 126.07 126.09 125.48	14.8 15.0 14.9 14.6

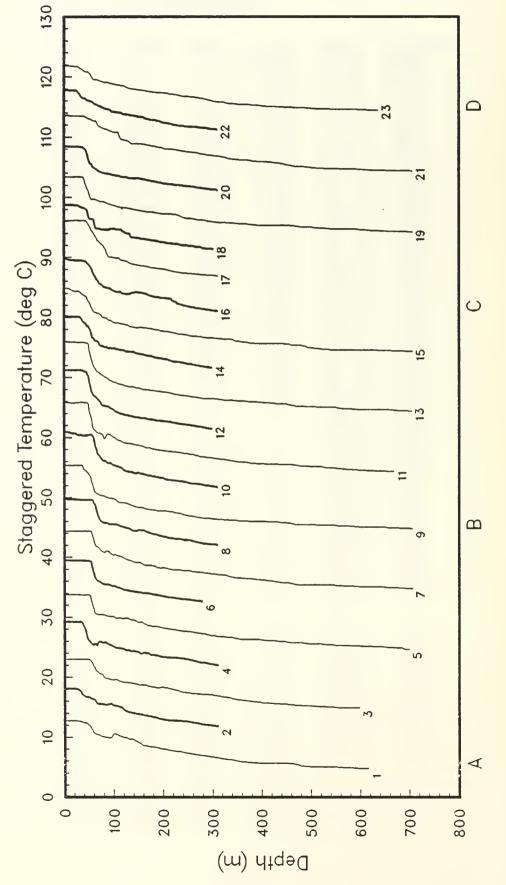
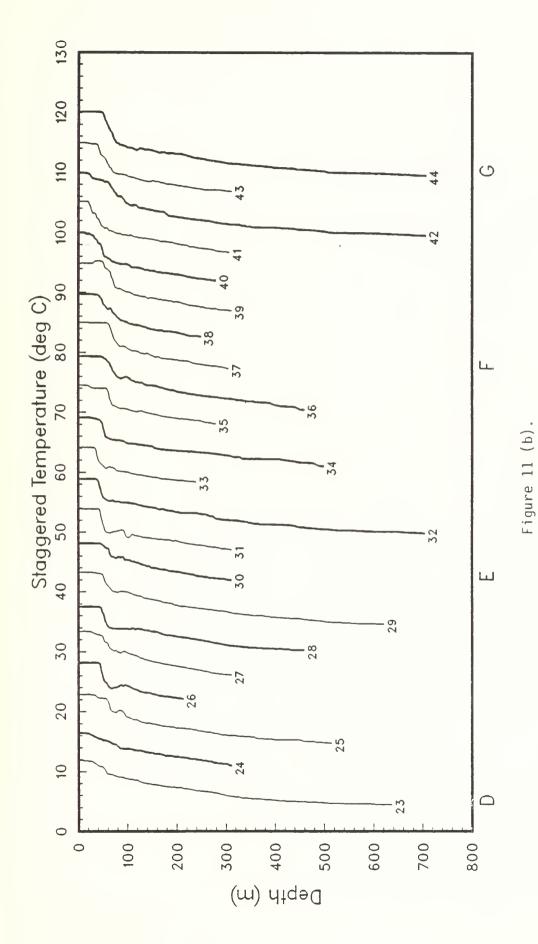
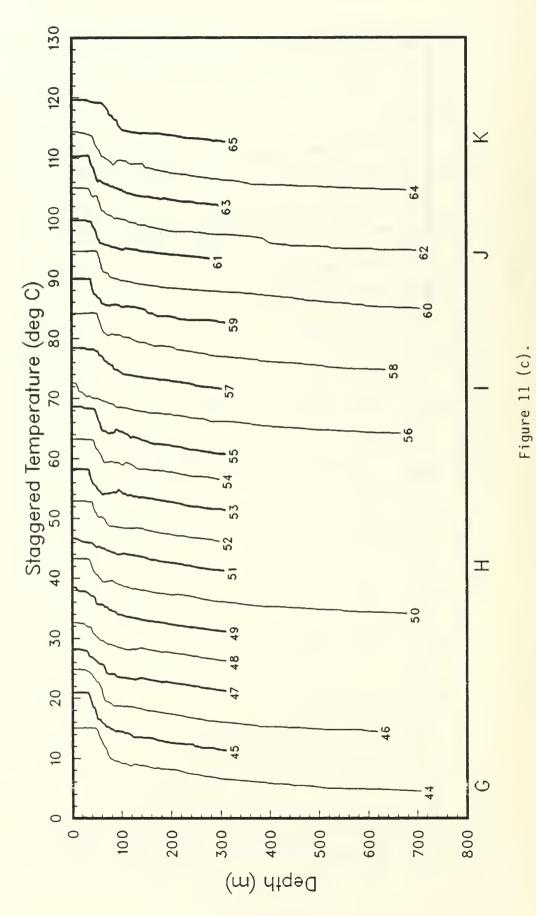


Figure 11 (a). Temperature profiles staggered by multiples of 5C (OPTOMA18 Flight II).





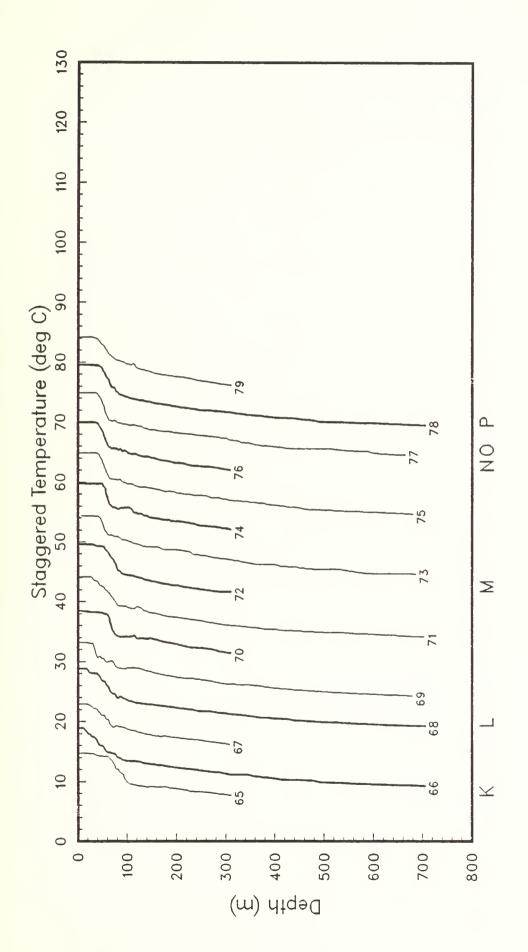
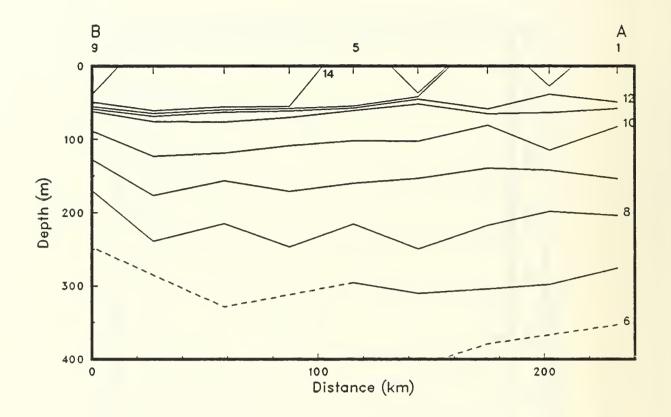


Figure 11 (d).



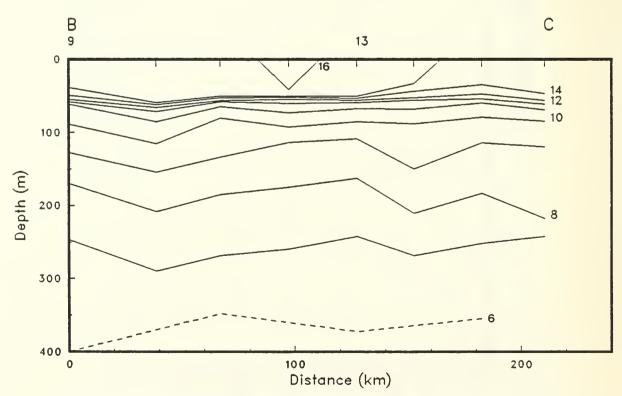
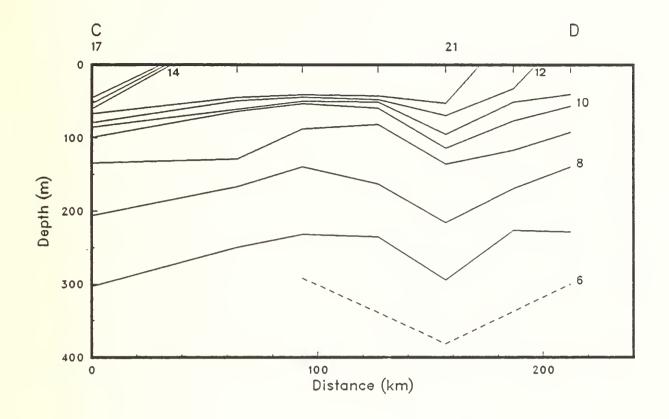
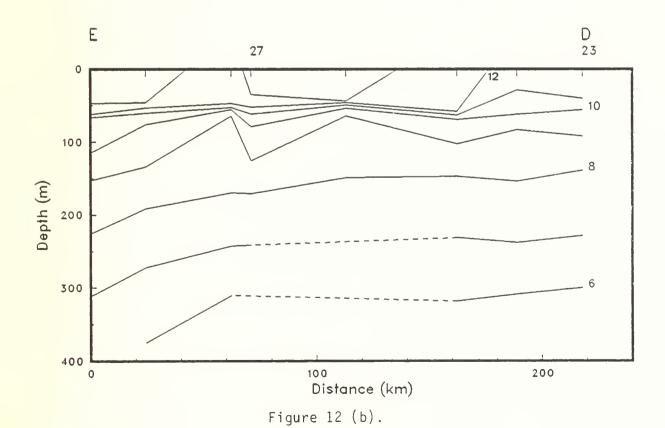
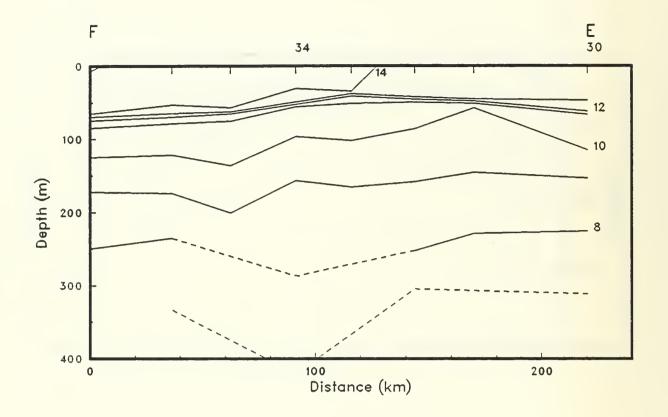
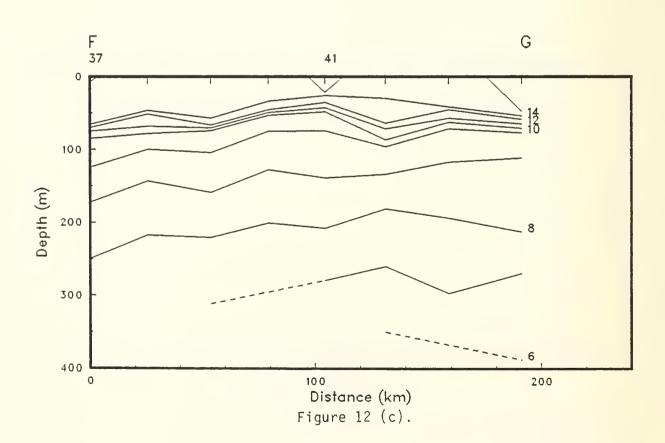


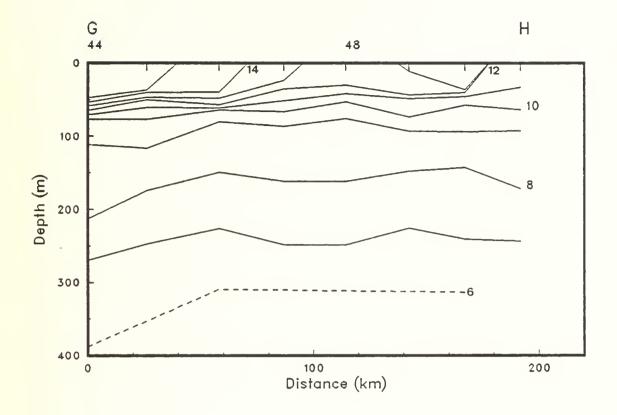
Figure 12 (a). Along-track isotherms. Tick marks along the upper horizontal axis show station positions. Some station numbers are given. Dashed lines are used if the cast was too shallow. (OPTOMA18 Flight II).











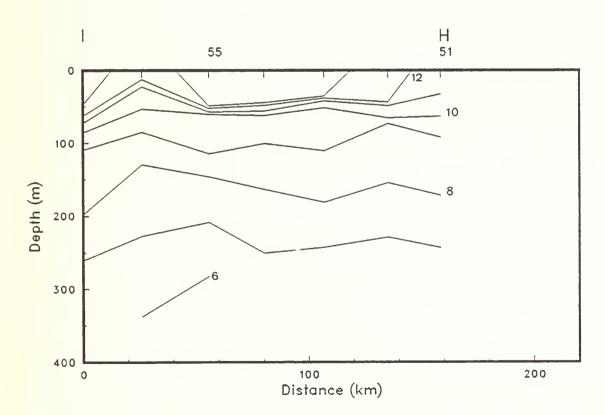
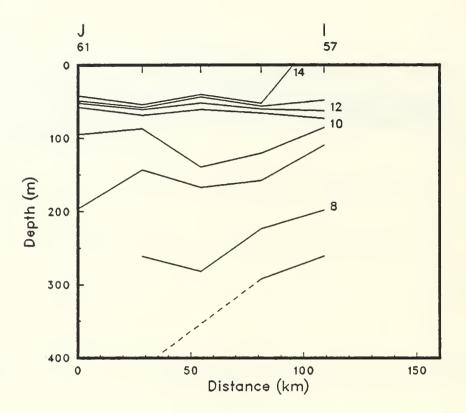
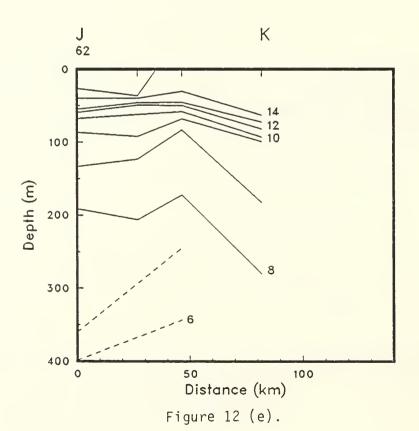
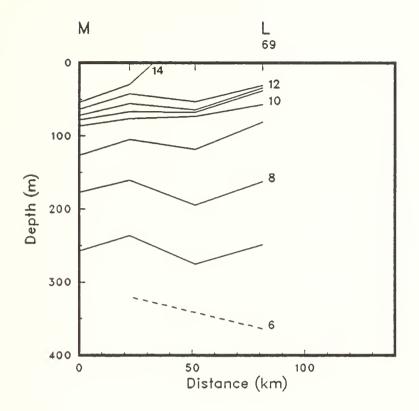
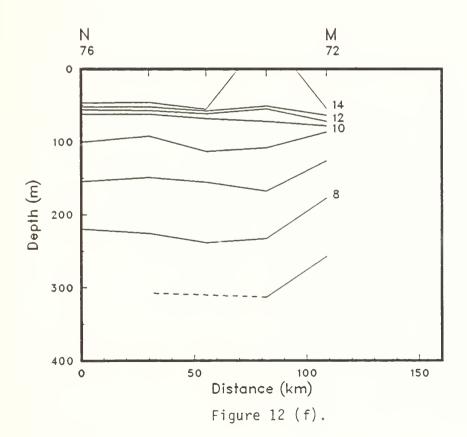


Figure 12 (d).









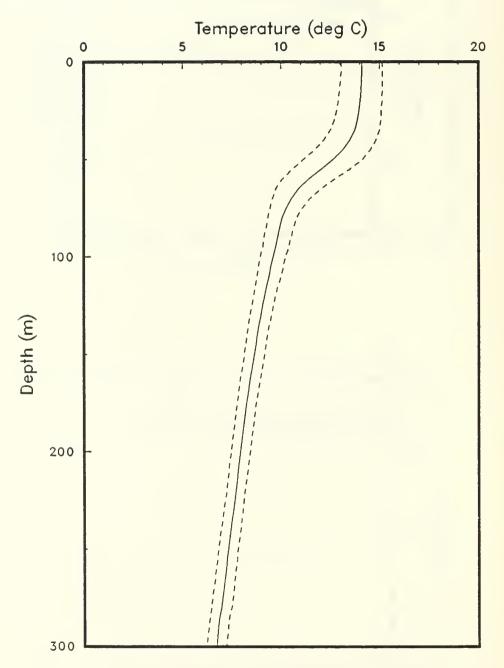


Figure 13. Mean temperature profile, with + and - the standard deviations, from OPTOMA18 Flight II.

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This research was sponsored by the ONR Physical Oceanography Program.

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